

3-6-2008

Montana Kaimin, March 6, 2008

Students of The University of Montana, Missoula

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Inside the Kaimin

Opinion p 2

Mark Page on Democratic brouhaha

Sports p 5

Men's Bball needs win over ISU to stay in playoffs.

On Campus Today

- 5:30 p.m. Easy Steps to a Safe Workout, Rec Center 207
 - 7 p.m. "Romancing the Dinosaurs," McGill 210, free
 - 7 p.m. "The Just War Myth," UC Ballroom, free
- Courtesy of UM Events Calendar

Forecast

High 48F
Low 27F



Credit card debt leads to dropouts

Jeff Osteen

FOR THE KAIMIN

Students dropping out of college cite financial pressure over academic disqualification as their primary reason for leaving, according to a 2007 survey.

Mick Hanson, director of the University of Montana Financial Aid Office, said there are a significant number of students at UM who are having trouble managing their expenses against their income because of credit cards.

"I see a lot of students with financial problems," Hanson said.

While Hanson could not provide any numbers on the amount of students who come to him with credit card debt problems, he said it is a common occurrence.

According the survey conducted by Duck9, a California-based company that offers free financial advice, 38 percent of students who dropped out of college cited financial pressure as their reason. Twenty-eight percent said it was due to academic disqualification.

Hanson agreed with the survey results and said problems with money are some of the biggest reasons that UM students drop out, not just GPAs.

In the survey, out of 14,500 undergraduate students at 15 colleges nationwide, there was a reported dropout rate of 19 percent.

In the same survey, 65 percent of four-year students with credit card debt reported having a part-time job, while 19 percent worked full time.

Among four-year students with no debt, 48 percent reported having a part-time job, while 11 percent said they work full time.

"I have no need for a credit card," said Paul Chirico, a fine arts junior at UM.

Chirico said it makes more sense for him to save up if he wants something, that way he will enjoy it more.

Chirico has managed to avoid credit card debt. Many students, however, have not been so lucky.

Nathan Towe, a junior majoring in psychology and theatre at UM, said, "Companies should really cut down on their marketing for students."

He said one credit card company was offering coupons for a free small pizza to students who applied for a card.

Towe said he doesn't have a

See DEBT, page 8

Reduce, reuse, recycle



Senior Wes Swaffer, student recycler, shifts through the newspaper recycling bin outside of Duniway Hall, collecting all the material that isn't newspaper. Recycling bins full of trash is a common problem, and Swaffer said he feels that the education of the university students is going to be the key to better recycling around campus.

Kenneth Billington / Montana Kaimin

Recycling enclosure to be built in July

Lauren Russell

MONTANA KAIMIN

For those Aber Hall recycling enthusiasts frustrated by the removal of the dorm's recycling bins, the bins won't be replaced any time soon.

It will be at least four months before Aber's recycling bins, which were removed last Monday, are replaced on the east wall, said Gerald Michaud, the assistant director of Custodial, Grounds and Labor.

Michaud said the bins, which served about 300 Aber residents, were removed because

the Recycling Department had received numerous complaints from the grounds crew. Materials from overflowing bins were being whipped around by the wind and littering the area around the dorm, he said.

If residents want to continue recycling, they must trek to the nearest bins, which are located at the University Center or McGill Hall.

Most of the material, however, is being tossed in the trash.

"Now we're just generating more trash," Michaud said. "I would like it to be recycled, but we

can't have it blowing all over."

Michaud said the Recycling Department's ideal solution is to build an enclosure of cement or cinder block on Aber's east wall to better contain the materials. The project won't begin until this summer, at the earliest. Michaud said he hopes the project will be completed by the start of fall semester.

"It's a matter of getting the weather and the money right," Michaud said.

According to Dustin Leftridge, ASUM president and chair of ASUM's Recycling Oversight

Committee, ASUM has allocated money into the budget – effective July 1 – to build the enclosure.

"The removal of the bins is a bit of a setback," Leftridge said. "But it is only a temporary solution to the wind problem."

In addition to funding an enclosure to restore recycling at Aber, Leftridge said a primary goal of the committee is to make recycling more accessible to all students who live in the dorms.

"Why aren't there bins inside of the rooms?" Leftridge said. "Why

See RECYCLING, page 8

Jacobson endorsed for student regent

Elizabeth Harrison

MONTANA KAIMIN

Editor's Note: Cedric Jacobson is a columnist for the Montana Kaimin.

The Montana Associated Students recommended University of Montana's Cedric Jacobson as their top-ranked nominee for the student regent position, after nearly two hours of deliberation at the Board of Regents meeting in Dillon Wednesday night.

Along with Jacobson, MAS is sending nominees Bovard Tiberi from Montana State University in Bozeman and Mitch Jessen, a student at UM Western in Dillon, to be interviewed by Gov. Brian

Schweitzer.

"I'm really excited," Jacobson said about the MAS decision. He said he was pretty confident he had a spot for the first 15 minutes of the meeting, but he became less and less sure in the next hour.

Jacobson said he would be sure to tout his experience when interviewing with the governor.

"I try to keep abreast of what's going on statewide at all the different campuses," he said. Jacobson, a student of microbiology, cellular molecular biology and biochemistry, has been a UM Advocate, was an ASUM senator two years ago and

served as ASUM Vice President last year. He is currently on seven UM committees, sits on the Retention Task Force and was appointed by Schweitzer last year to the Commission on Community Service.

"My skill set fits in really nicely with this position," he told MAS during his interview.

Jacobson also said that if chosen as student regent, the three issues he would platform would be funding, faculty retirement, and recruitment and retention.

"I think this position is where I have the opportunity to do the most good for the most students,"

he said.

MAS ranked nominees on a one to five scale, with one being most preferable and five being least preferable. Jacobson's final tally came to one, which made him the top-ranked nominee. MAS decided not to rank the other two nominees, conceding that ultimately the decision rests with the governor.

MAS member and ASUM president Dustin Leftridge said that Jacobson has the experience for the student regent position.

"MAS recommended someone who has the ability to relate well to administrators and legislators," he said.

Current student regent Kerra

See REGENT, page 8

EDITORIAL

Native, earth relations not always harmonious

During last week's installment of the President's Lecture Series, leading American Indian activist and environmentalist Winona LaDuke urged her audience to take inspiration from native tribes to solve problems of energy sustainability in today's society.

While certain knowledge about proper land use and environmental protection might be gained from some American Indian tribes, it is important not to hold an idealized view of history.

People's negative influence on the environment is nothing new.

There is a common utopian picture that American Indians all lived in complete harmony with the land, never used their environment beyond its capacity, and always kept a balance between taking and giving back to Mother Earth. This is nonsense.

Large populations of people, regardless of whether they are American Indian or white or any other race, when living in a certain area, will have a large impact on their surrounding environment.

For example, a recent study by University of Utah archaeologist Jack Broughton discovered that California was not always the Eden of milk and honey people imagined.

By analyzing 5,736 bird bones from American Indian dumping grounds, as well as researching the history of fish and mammal populations, Broughton determined that California's historical native tribes hunted the state's wildlife to near extinction. It was only after European diseases killed thousands of natives in the 1500s that California's wildlife, including geese, elk and deer, flourished again.

The Anasazi tribe, who encompassed populations of pueblo dwellers in the Four Corners region of the Southwest, was also guilty of environmental degradation. Poor farming techniques that depleted the soil of minerals, deforestation leading to erosion and lack of wood for fuel, over-hunting that caused widespread starvation and brutal wars over water rights all contributed to the collapse of the ancient civilization.

We can take lessons from the past, but we should also remember how valuable new technology and innovation is in helping the world solve energy and resource issues.

"We believe we are able to outsmart the oceans and winds," LaDuke said. "We are foolish."

Perhaps we can't outsmart the oceans and the winds, but we can harness them. Advanced technology allowing us to capture energy from winds and tides has provided entire towns and portions of cities with electricity.

We should not hold a nostalgic longing for a past we image to be pristine. Instead, we should view historical societies as they actually were and use their failures, along with their accomplishments, to help guide us in making current decisions about our environment and natural resources.



Emma Schmautz
News Editor

Mark Page

Clinton-Obama clashes take heat off McCain

It may seem like Hillary Clinton had a victorious night Tuesday, shaking off the vultures and getting back on her feet, but the real winner was John McCain.

He is an obvious winner in clinching his party's nomination, but that deal was already sealed, really. What McCain benefits from most is Clinton's comeback. He's going to get way more out of this than she is.

A long fight between Clinton and Barack Obama will take the heat off McCain. Already this past weekend Howard Dean, the Democratic Party's chairman, had to step in and start attacking McCain because neither of the candidates would, or could.

The Democrats will continue to hammer at each other (at least until April 22 when Pennsylvania goes to the polls) instead of putting up a solid front against the Republican attack machine. This scenario will only damage Obama; there is a sort of solid McCain-Clinton front allied against him.

But Obama will most likely still be the nominee for the Democratic Party, and egos need to be put aside so the party can coalesce behind one person.

One only has to look at the demographics of the upcoming primary states to figure out why. The next two primaries favor Obama hugely: Wyoming will fall to him just like all the other Western Plains states, and he will take Mississippi, which has a large black population, a group that has supported Obama by margins of 9 to 1.

After these two primaries there will be a tough fight in Pennsylvania and maybe a tough fight in Indiana with Clinton's blue-collar vote versus Obama's local connections.

While Indianans go to the polls, so do those in the last big state, North Carolina. This is clearly Obama territory – a southern state with a black population of over 20 percent and a median household income of over \$40,000 per year.

In order for Clinton to overtake Obama at this point she would have to win Pennsylvania, and all the following states, by large margins. This will not happen unless Obama is caught with his pants down. Yet even that didn't stop Bill. Her only recourse is to convince the superdelegates to vote for her at the convention in August even if she doesn't have the pledged delegates to win. Or she could manage to seat the Lost Delegates of Michigan and Florida.

Those outcomes would only serve to divide the Democratic Party. A lot of people would become very jaded if their candidate lost to a Washington insider using her back-room muscle to wrest the nomination from him.

Clinton does seem to have a plan to heal the wounds she would have to inflict to get on top of the Democrat's ticket, and she hinted at it Wednesday morning on the CBS Early Show: a joint ticket. If Obama joined her as the vice presidential candidate all would be forgotten.

When Clinton mentioned the possibility, she did say she should be on the top of the ticket (the voters of Ohio proclaimed so, she said). This illustrates that she needs Obama. But he doesn't need her.

Clinton could only hurt Obama's chances in the general election against McCain. Hypothetical match-up polls have consistently shown McCain beats Clinton but not Obama. The most recent of

these polls by the Washington Post and ABC news does now have both Democrats beating McCain, but Obama wins by double Clinton's margin.

Clinton is also a divisive person: people tend to love her or hate her, and when they hate her, they really hate her.

This is why there has been no mention from the Obama campaign of a joint ticket. Clinton may have another angle though, she might think by putting that idea out there she can attract wavering Obama supporters who think it would make him president eight years down the road.

Clinton does not really have the right to start seeding this idea yet though – last night's results didn't really give her the strength. Obama still leads in delegates 1,567 to 1,462, according to the Associated Press.

Obama actually only ended up one delegate down in Texas Tuesday, and 12 delegates down for the night.

Texas has both a caucus and a primary, with 65 percent of delegates being awarded through the primary and 35 percent through the caucus. Voters can vote in both, but they cannot vote in the caucus unless they have already voted in the primary. Clinton won the primary, but Obama took the caucus.

Meanwhile, McCain is hanging out on the White House lawn getting endorsed by the president. His only issue in the coming months will be to not fall out of the spotlight as the Clinton-Obama clashes increase in ferocity.

He will probably do this by sharpening his attacks on Obama, while gaining high-level endorsements from across the conservative spectrum – a spectrum he is going to have to work diligently to unite. But McCain has time.



College Republicans and Democrats team together

In case you haven't noticed, there's an election going on in our great nation. And with every election (or even in our daily lives) we should all take notice and become active participants in our community, government and the world at large.

It is because of the importance of awareness and civic engagement that the College Republicans and the College Democrats are joining ASUM's War on Apathy Campaign.

The War on Apathy is a campaign being launched by ASUM's Student Political Action Committee, and its focus is to make students aware of some

very important issues that will be affecting us all.

Whether the issue be public safety, public health, individual liberties, international affairs or the welfare of the economy, this campaign's purpose is to make information available to you so that you can decide what you think is best for yourself, your community and your country.

To get this very important campaign started the College

Democrats and the College Republicans will be participating in a debate focused on national issues ranging from healthcare to illegal immigration.

This debate will be Thursday, March 6 in the UC Commons at noon. Both of our groups are extremely excited to be having this discussion, and even more excited to be working with ASUM to help get everyone involved in our community.

We hope that you will join us for our debate and join ASUM as we all work together to fight apathy on our campus.

– Allie Harrison

President, College Republicans

– Scott Martin

President, College Democrats

Pissed? Pleased? Perturbed?

Write a letter to the editor.

kaiminletters@umontana.edu

Montana Kaimin

110 years

The Montana Kaimin, in its 110th year, is published by the students of The University of Montana, Missoula. The UM School of Journalism uses the Montana Kaimin for practice courses but assumes no control over policy or content.

Send letters to the editor to kaiminletters@umontana.edu or drop them off in Anderson Hall 208.

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Kaimin is a Salish word for messages.

Correction:

In Tuesday's issue the Montana Kaimin incorrectly reported that the dive teams searching the Clard Fork River for Michael Meadows' body had an underwater visibility that was "at best, six inches to a foot in areas of water that were, at the shallowest, 38-feet deep." Actually, 38 feet was the deepest area of water the divers were searching on Saturday. Also, Brandon Gonski, who was volunteering on-site to assist the diving crew by providing safety support, was not "manning rope lines connecting the divers to the riverbanks." The purpose of the ropes is to provide maneuvering signals to divers underwater, in which Gonski was not involved."

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Crossword

- ACROSS
1 Bottom line
6 Consider
10 Work units
14 Tasty smell
15 Eyeball
16 Mystique
17 Spud
18 Shopping center
19 Singer Campbell
20 Close up
22 Frozen rain
23 Ages and ages
24 Madrid nap
25 "The Blues Brothers" star
29 Practical sci. classes
30 Bluebloods
32 Jose, CA
35 Stretch vehicle
36 Writer Rand
37 gin fizz
38 Tweedle ending?
39 Monastic monk
43 Heavy imbibers
44 Burned with liquid
45 Cavalry swords
48 Ink spot
49 Lacking freshness
50 Slickers
55 Kick out
56 Fleming
57 Aluminum producer
58 Clarinet relative
59 Badgered
60 Legal attachments
61 Hamlet, e.g.
62 Heckerling and Irving
63 Misplaces

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3/6/08

Solutions

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- 7 Holy smokes!
8 Glamour rival
9 Actor Gibson
10 Aerie builders
11 Holds sway
12 Welcome
13 Cruz, CA
21 London district
22 Bro's bros
24 Took a seat
25 Smooth-headed
26 Toledo's lake
27 Key pie ingredient
28 Mil. welfare org.
29 Overwhelming victories
31 Sandwich bread
32 Lost traction
33 Top-drawer
34 Requirement
37 Letters on
39 Cylinder diameter
40 Aliens, briefly
41 Desktop image
42 Derisive cry
43 Small sofa
45 Got to one's feet
46 Antilles island
47 American buffalo
48 Toss about
50 Part of SRO
51 Hodgepodge
52 Sleeve cards
53 Verbal subtlety
54 Give guff to
56 Lingerie buy

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Group and Seminar Offerings

Bereavement Group

The death of a friend or family member on top of responsibilities of college can be overwhelming. You are invited to a supportive setting where you can share your thoughts and feelings with other students experiencing the death of a loved one.

Food: Friend or Foe

This group is designed for those who struggle with their relationship with food and body image. Emotional vs. physical hunger, triggers for overeating, restricting, bingeing and/or purging, and self-care will be explored.

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group

This support group is designed to support and investigate issues such as: sexuality, homophobia, relationships, family dynamics, "coming out," the gay/lesbian/bisexual community, parenting and integrating sexual orientation with school and career plans.

Mindfulness Meditation Workshop

This six-week group focuses on gaining self-awareness by "living in the moment" and reducing the stresses of "living mostly for the future." It will include meditation instruction and practice. The first session will allow you to sample the group before making a commitment.

Shyness Group

You are not alone in feeling shy. 93% of all people experience some degree of shyness. However, the pain of shyness does not have to interfere with developing relationships, engaging in social and school activities, or reaching your goals. During this 6-week group, we will cover thought distortions, relaxation, assertiveness and social skills.

Early Recovery/Abstinence Group

Meets twice a week, providing time and support for those who want to stop using alcohol or other drugs. While the group is designed to conclude after six weeks, it will continue for the duration of the semester should group members desire it. Cost: \$120

Everybody! Everybody!

This workshop, led by a psychologist, an exercise specialist, and a dietitian, will cover nutrition myths and facts, exercise, distorted thinking, making changes and body image.

Taming Your Test Anxiety

Learn how to relax and do well on tests. Skills to be addressed include: relaxation, test-taking strategies to improve scores, and "best case scenarios" for test taking.

Stress Management

This seminar will give you the tools to manage your stress level. Topics to be covered: the unique stressors as a student, the purpose of stress and keeping anxiety at a reasonable level.

Couples Seminar

Personality style in your relationship: A seminar for couples. Ever notice that the qualities that first attracted you to your partner are now the very things that drive you crazy? Come to this seminar for a new perspective on how to accept and work with our differences. Before this seminar each partner must complete the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator® (completing the form at the CAPS office signs you up for the seminar). In the seminar couples will discuss the results only with each other.

If you are interested in participating in one or more groups, please call 243-4711 or visit CAPS and leave a schedule of your availability.

Got Blues?



Kenneth Billington / Montana Kaimin

Lead guitarist for the Mike Bader Band, Mike Bader screams the blues on his guitar Wednesday afternoon for Blues Fest. Blues Fest, which is on campus all this week, is a way in which music is used to start dialogue about mental illness.

Manmade flood unleashed in Grand Canyon

Amanda Lee Myers
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PAGE, Ariz. – Four arcs of water unleashed from a dam coursed through the Grand Canyon on Wednesday in a flood meant to mimic the natural ones that used to nourish the ecosystem by spreading sediment.

More than 300,000 gallons of water per second were released from Lake Powell above the dam near the Arizona-Utah border. That's enough water to fill the Empire State Building in 20 minutes, said Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne.

The water level in the Grand Canyon rose 2 to 15 feet in some places. After the flood ends Friday, officials hope the water will leave behind sediment and restore sandbars as it goes back to normal levels. Officials have flooded the canyon twice before, in 1996 and 2004.

Jesse, Aber halls engaging in green battle

Alexander Tenenbaum

FOR THE KAIMIN

The sustainability battle between Jesse and Aber Halls began Friday, and the dorm that cuts more of its energy and water use will not only win bragging rights, but also a raffle of prizes donated by local businesses.

"This is so students can learn about sustainable living while they're still in the dorms, so they can keep living sustainably when

they leave," said Emily Peters, sustainability coordinator for the University of Montana's Facility Services.

She said since the school spends \$3.1 million a year on heat and lighting, cutting down on use would help UM cut costs.

The competition, which will run through the end of April, has been going on for five days, accompanied by posters and sign-up sheets in the

lobbies, and info packets on the front desks. But some Jesse and Aber residents were still unaware.

"Well, I saw the poster, but I didn't know anything about a competition," said Leslie Whigham, a freshman Jesse resident majoring in health and human performance.

Others are well aware of the rivalry, and even said they'd begun to change their habits as a result. Corey Jamroz, an undeclared freshman in Aber, said he used to leave his computer on all the time.

"I power it down every night now," he said.

While some are changing their habits, few are signing up for floor leadership roles. By 5 p.m.

Wednesday, there were only two signatures on the sign-up sheets, one at Aber and one at Jesse.

Regardless of whether the residents are aware or get involved, the battle is on.

Peters said Facility Services will score the competition from monthly readings of the dorms' electricity, water and natural gas meters.

To account for building discrepancies caused by location or construction, the winning dorm won't simply be the one that uses less energy. That would be unfair because for the past five years, Aber has used far less energy than Jesse.

Instead, the scores will be determined by comparing each

dorm's monthly consumption to the averages of the past five years. The winner will be the dorm that reduces its use by the greatest percent, she said.

Facility Services' electricity chart shows that for the past five years, Aber has been buzzing on an average of 55,000 kilowatt-hours in the month of March. Jesse, on the other hand, uses a shocking average of 60,000. In natural gas, Jesse burns an average of 1 million BTUs, while Aber only uses 800,000.

When it comes to water, the two dorms are neck and neck, each sucking down an average of 450,000 gallons in the month of March.

Some Jesse residents, despite their traditionally greater consumption, said they could beat Aber.

"There's some really environmentally conscious people in Jesse," said freshman Jesse resident Brittnee Brown to bolster her prediction of victory.

Aber residents were less willing to predict the outcome, but Aber's secretary Sue Hess said she thought her dorm might win. The victory would be nice, she said, but environmental awareness is the point. She said she's noticed a change over the years in how students think about the environment.

"It seems like each year, the kids come in more and more aware of it," Hess said.

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Combining electronic filing with direct deposit will provide the quickest possible refund. The typical wait time for a refund is 5 -10 days for an e-filed return or 6 -10 weeks for a paper return. You can even make an electronic payment if you have a tax obligation.

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SIDE LINES

NATIONAL SPORTS BRIEFS

NASCAR: Carl Edwards was penalized 100 championship points on Wednesday for a rules violation following his Sunday win at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Crew chief Bob Osborne was fined \$100,000 and suspended for the next six races. During a post-race inspection, NASCAR officials found that the lid from the oil tank of Edwards’ car had come off, which would have created an aerodynamic advantage, according to officials.

NBA: Former Phoenix Suns guard Kevin Johnson entered Sacramento’s mayoral race Wednesday. The 42-year-old NBA legend is three-term incumbent Heather Fargo’s only serious opposition.

National sports briefs are compiled by Kaimin sports with information gathered from wire reports.

MEN’S BIG SKY TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Quarterfinals, March 8
Montana State at Weber State, 7:05 p.m.
Montana at Idaho State, 7:05 p.m.
Semifinals, March 11 at Rose Garden in Portland, Ore.
Northern Arizona vs. highest remaining seed, 5:30 p.m.
Portland State vs. lowest remaining seed, 8 p.m.
Big Sky Championship, March 12
Semifinal winners, 6 p.m. PST on ESPN 2

STANDINGS

MEN’S BBALL		
School	Big Sky	All
+Portland State	14-2	21-9
*Northern Arizona	11-5	20-10
*Weber State	9-6	14-13
* Montana	8-8	14-15
*Idaho State	8-8	11-18
Montana State	7-9	15-14
Eastern Washington	6-10	11-19
Northern Colorado	6-10	13-16
Sacramento State	2-13	4-23

WOMEN’S BBALL		
School	Big Sky	All
# Montana	12-2	22-5
*Idaho State	11-4	19-8
*Portland State	10-4	20-7
Montana State	9-5	14-12
Northern Colorado	6-8	12-15
Weber State	6-9	12-15
Northern Arizona	6-9	10-18
Sacramento State	4-11	6-21
Eastern Washington	1-13	4-23
+Clinched regular season title		
#Clinched share of regular season title.		
*Clinched spot in postseason tournament.		

TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

In 1982, San Antonio defeated Milwaukee in the NBA’s highest scoring game, 171-166, in three overtimes.

Griz need win over ISU to keep season alive

Bill Oram
MONTANA KAIMIN

The path the University of Montana men’s basketball team followed to reach the postseason was anything but a direct one.

Tabbed by the media as the preseason favorites, the Grizzlies started the Big Sky Conference season in a 1-4 funk before ripping off wins in five of their next six games. The Griz finished the season 8-8 in the league.

Saturday’s quarterfinal game at Idaho State (11-18, 8-8 Big Sky Conference) will determine whether the road leads deeper into the conference tournament or into the off-season.

“We’ve got our hands full,” coach Wayne Tinkle said. “We know the crowd’s going to be raucous, and I think it will be a real rallying cry for us.”

The Griz and Bengals have, in recent years, developed something of a neighborly rivalry. Three of the teams’ last four games, including a Feb. 24 showdown in which the Griz eked out a win, went into overtime. In those four tilts, each team has earned a pair of victories.

In the recent win in Pocatello, the Griz (14-15, 8-8 BSC) took the game to overtime when ISU’s Matt Stucki missed badly on a 3-point attempt and Jordan Hasquet’s timeout call, when the Griz didn’t have any remaining, was not recognized. The timeout could have resulted in a technical foul, giving the Bengals a chance to steal the win.

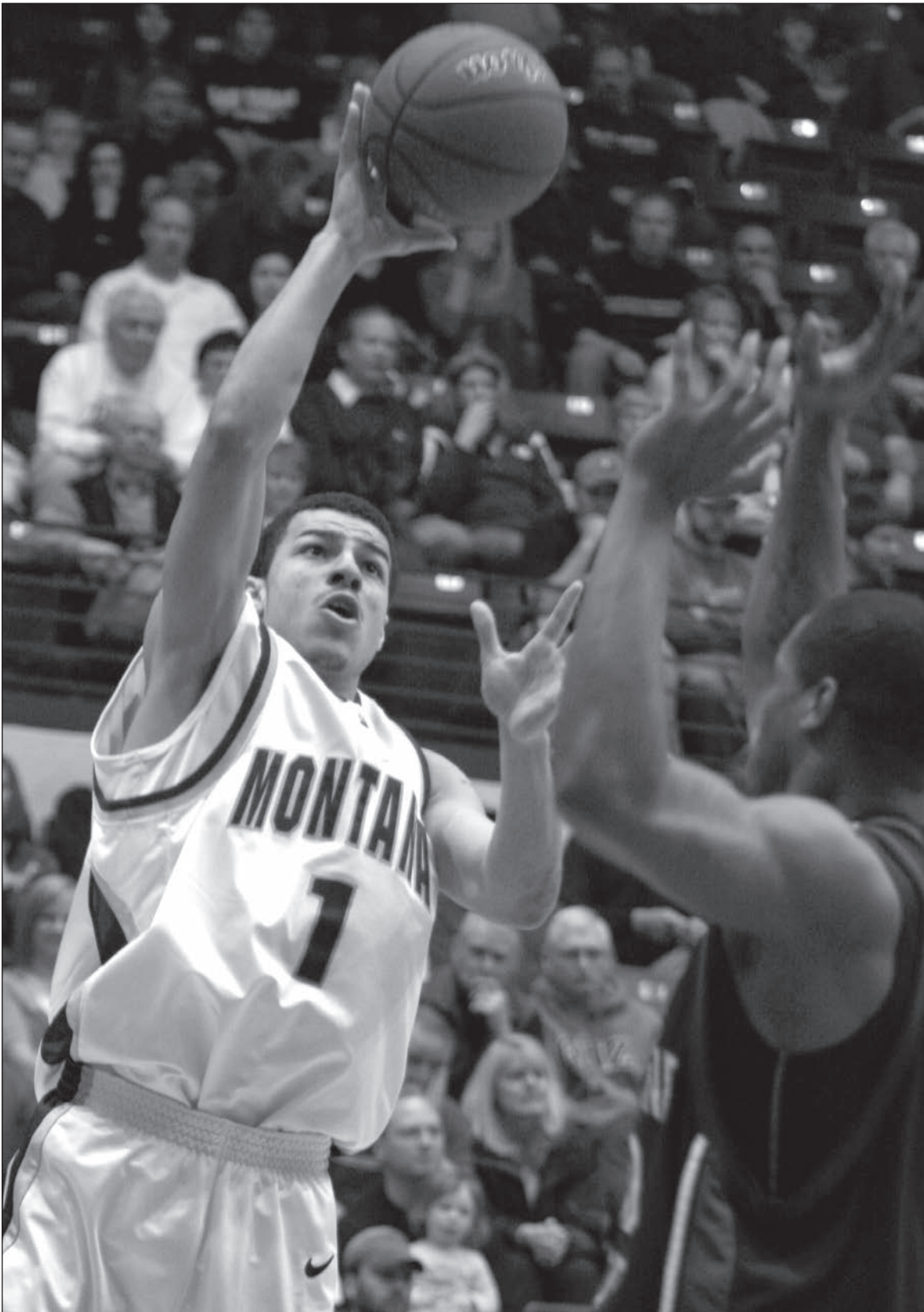
“It’s going to be a tough test for us,” senior forward Andrew Strait said. “We’ve won the last two times we’ve been down there, both in overtime. I know after what happened this last time they’re going to have a pretty intense game on their minds.”

The Grizzlies and Bengals played to overtime in last year’s quarterfinals in Missoula, with the Griz earning a 70-63 victory.

This year Montana enters the postseason as the No. 5 seed, while Idaho State is No. 4.

“We’re similar-type teams,” Tinkle said. “We’re physical, kind of grind it out, fight you on the defensive end.”

The Bengals pose a daunting lineup, with big guards like Matt Stucki (6-foot-6), Amorrow



Hugh Carey/Montana Kaimin
UM guard Cameron Rundles shoots the ball while being guarded by Portland State’s J.R. Moore during last weekend’s game at Dahlberg Arena. The Griz will play in quarterfinals at Idaho State this Saturday.

Morgan (6-foot-5) and Donnie Carson (6-foot-2) complementing a front line led by 6-foot-8 Demetrius Monroe.

When the Bengals defeated the Griz 56-54 in Missoula on Jan. 17,

Strait earns first team All-Conference honors

Bill Oram
MONTANA KAIMIN

Montana’s Andrew Strait was named Wednesday, for the second time in his career, to the All-Big Sky Conference first team. Strait, a 6-foot-9, 280-pound senior forward from Yakima, Wash., averaged 14.8 points and 7.7 rebounds per game in conference play to lead the University of Montana men’s basketball team to an 8-8 league record and the fifth seed in the conference tournament.

“It’s nice. It’s a nice personal achievement,” Strait said. “I always like to give the credit to my teammates because the position I play, it’s the guards and the wings that do a good job of finding me when I’m open.”

Junior forward Jordan Hasquet earned honorable mention recognition.

Strait made first team All-Big Sky as a sophomore in 2005, when the Griz won the conference tournament and knocked off Nevada in the first round of the NCAA tournament. Last season he was named to the second team.

“You look at what he’s done over his career, and the fact that he was first team his sophomore year and wasn’t satisfied with that, and for him to fight back and have a good year for us this year is really thrilling,” coach Wayne Tinkle said. “It’s an honor that the rest of the coaches in the league voted him to that.”

Strait’s 63.7 field goal percentage led the Big Sky and

See STRAIT, page 7

ISU dominated the glasses, snaring 32 rebounds to Montana’s 23. In Pocatello, the Grizzlies won the battle of the boards with a more even 31-30 advantage.

“That’s a big key with them,

games where they’re outrebounded, they lose,” Tinkle said. “They’re physical, they use what they have to the best of their ability. We’re going to have to get real physical

See GRIZ, page 6

Lady Griz must beat Eagles for BSC title

Ben Prez
MONTANA KAIMIN

The Lady Griz can slam the door on the rest of the Big Sky Conference with a win tonight.

With just two games remaining on the regular-season schedule, Montana (22-5, 12-2 BSC) can clinch an outright Big Sky title and gain the rights to host the postseason tournament if the Lady Griz beat the Eagles (4-23, 1-13 BSC) tonight at 8 in Cheney, Wash.

Montana won last week to claim at least a share of its 21st regular season title. Although tonight might seem like a mop up game, this team won’t be playing any different than usual or letting

up in the least.

“There is no possible way we’re going to look past this team,” said Lady Griz coach Robin Selvig. “They took Portland State to the buzzer, and it’s a championship game for us, so we’ll be fired up.”

Eastern Washington has struggled this season but has been playing better as of late. When these two teams last squared off, Montana won, but the Eagles jumped to an eight-point lead in the early onset of that game, and the Lady Griz had just a three-point lead at halftime.

Selvig said that Montana must be ready for Eastern Washington, a team with good size and depth.

The Eagles feature Katy Baker,

See LADY GRIZ, page 7

Tolbert emerges from the shadows of Counting Coup

Roman Stubbs

MONTANA KAIMIN

For the first time in her life, Dvera Tolbert's big play ability is being illuminated by the little things. The way she comes off a pick on a flex cut. The way she manipulates a box out on a missed foul shot. The way she goes up and under, always trying to get the bucket and the foul. The little things.

But Dvera Tolbert's freshman season has been anything but little. It has been a year of colossal proportions for the people of Hardin and Crow Agency, but not only because one of their daughters is playing on a full ride, within her. It's because of what she has played without.

The ghost of Sharon LaForge has never haunted Dvera Tolbert.

When Larry Colton released his 2000 book "Counting Coup: a True Story of Basketball and Honor on the Little Bighorn," he gave birth to a Montana literary gem. His stirring portrait is of LaForge, a 17-year-old Crow member and basketball phenom at Hardin High School, who is driven to lead her team to a 1993 state title, and, above all, to become the first woman in her tribe to win a basketball scholarship.

Four hundred and forty-three pages of darkness ensue. And with that darkness, a cloud has hovered over Hardin hoops ever since. *Sports Illustrated* called it "excruciating." LaForge doesn't lead her team to a title.

No scholarship. Instead, she is walking through the shadow lands of a disappearing America, a culture that is 100 years deep in repression. She experiences racism, alcoholism and poverty.

LaForge's talent is undeniable. But her future is dark.

After the release of the book, the Crow people felt betrayed by Colton and his 15 months of befriending and reporting. Now, there are only 443 pages of dispatches that run in cold and bitter ink on the Crow Agency.

What Buzz Bissinger is to Odessa, Larry Colton is to Hardin.

"He said so many negative things about the girls," said Linda McClanahan, who was the head coach of Hardin and is one of the book's central figures. "Our people felt a degree of betrayal."

But if you sift through the dark clouds, and look beyond the harrowing war between Colton and the Agency, eight years later, there is a sign. There is this scene at the end of Colton's narrative that is gripping – almost spooky – as he is leaving the reservation after 15 months of reporting. He stops off the side of the highway and notices a teenage Crow girl passionately shooting on a rustic basketball court, where he hopes

that her focus is a translation into her dream of playing college basketball.

I can't help but think that this is Dvera Tolbert. Maybe not realistically, but spiritually, this is what her freshman season represents. Hope. She has taken an almost mythical anecdote by an author and turned it into reality.

Tolbert grew up in Hardin. The same environment that plagued LaForge was accessible to her, but one characteristic has

never been compromised: Dvera Tolbert is a ballplayer. She broke almost every offensive record at Hardin High, passing them faster than small towns on an open Montana highway. By her junior year as one of Montana's elite, her game exploded, and the shrapnel hit Division I coaches in all directions. They became believers in her. But none more than Robin Selvig.

There is a sanctuary of progression here at the University, where seeds are being planted. You can feel it. Two decades ago, having more than one at this level was rare. Last year our hearts were captured by Mike Chavez's story. Dana Conway has been a steadfast student athlete for four years. Tam Guardipee is one of the team's best students and best players. And now Tolbert, who doesn't want anything written about her. She

is writing her own chapter, one devoid of indulging into the story that inflamed her high school's legacy.

"I read about 20 to 30 pages, but I was told not to read it, that it would be a waste of my time," she respectfully said of the book.

It hasn't been easy, and it will never be. There is still vicious statewide prejudice, where perception can overshadow dreams. The perception that Indian hoop dreams after high school are always dwindled and swirled into the bottom of a bottle of Seagram's. That stigma will always be there.

But Tolbert and her Air Jordans have jump-stopped onto those perceptions, crushing them, giving the next generation hope. Giving something Sharon LaForge never had.

They don't want "Counting Coup" on the bookshelf. They want a No. 44 Hardin jersey on their backs.

"All you have to do is mention her name, and the people just smile," said McClanahan, who added that the Agency is just as proud of her off the court as on it. "She is just a great person, and humble. The kids always talk about her. They really look up to her."

I hear she is an amazing artist. Tolbert told me that she plans on majoring in art after two years. She will have an empty canvas in the classroom, just like the empty canvas she has been given on the hardwood.

She has only begun to dabble on that canvas, playing in shades of pinks and yellows and reds.

The future is bright.

GRIZ

Continued from page 5

with our lack of size out there and make sure we do our job on the boards."

Strait agreed that rebounding will be key in the playoff game.

"It's going to be a big focus, they've got big guards, and keeping them off the glass is probably going to be the difference in the game," he said.

The Griz have played the last several weeks shorthanded. Freshman center Brian Qvale missed four games with an ankle injury that has yet to fully heal, and players like Strait, Hasquet and Matt Martin have battled illnesses.

Tinkle said the worst of that is behind the team.

"I think we're through the sickness by and large, but we've still got a couple of nagging injuries with a couple of our key guys," Tinkle said. "But we've really kind of scheduled this week wisely as far as practice and how long we're going and giving them some days off in hopes that come Saturday, we've got a real renewed energy about us."

Strait said Wednesday he will continue to wear a mask to protect his nose, which was broken in practice last Friday.

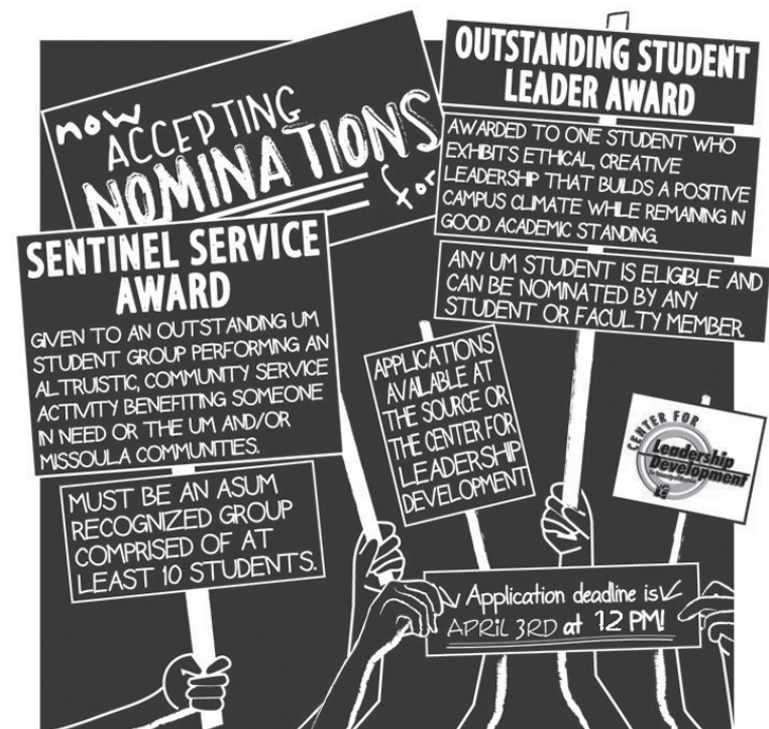
A win against Idaho State would propel the Grizzlies to the Big Sky Conference semifinals for the fourth year in a row. The tournament will be hosted by Portland State this year at the 19,980-seat Rose Garden arena, home of the NBA's Portland Trail Blazers.

Three years ago the tournament was held in Portland at the Memorial Coliseum, the Rose Garden's predecessor, which is still used for smaller events. It was there the Griz, then a No. 3 seed, knocked off both Montana State and Weber State to earn a trip to the NCAA tournament.

"We've got some guys that remember that," Tinkle said. "There are some similarities to this team from that year, and certainly it's a place where we're comfortable ... But first things first, this weekend we've got to play a tough, tough Idaho State team. If we can get by that one then boy, I think we can put something together."

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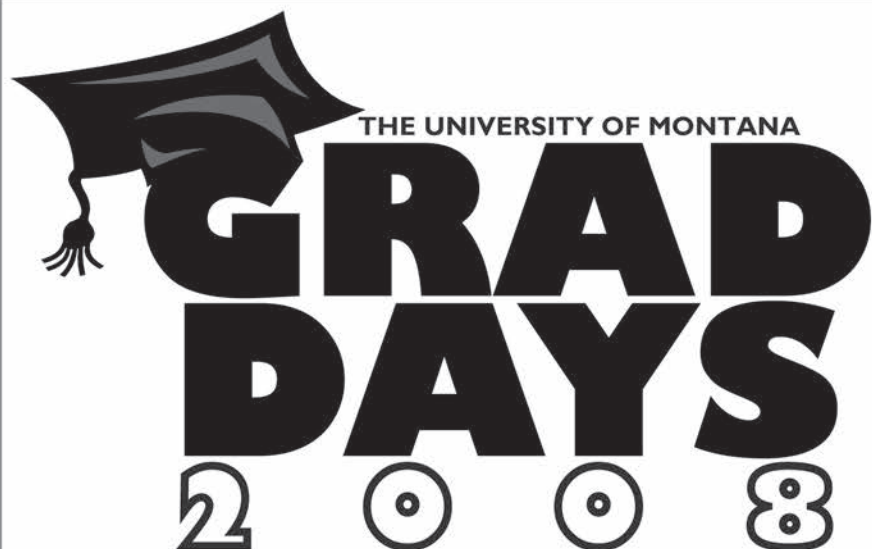
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LADY GRIZ

Continued from page 5

Sydney Benson, Kyla Evans and Nicole Scott, all posting about 11 points per game, with Benson and Scott providing matchup problems as agile 6-foot-2 forwards.

“We’re playing well, and we have the ability to score, but we have offensive droughts that kill us against the top teams,” said Eastern Washington head coach Wendy Schuller. “Montana’s got a lot of good shooters and (Mandy) Morales just makes everyone around her better, so we can’t have droughts and we’ve got to get them out of their tempo if we’re going to win.”

The Lady Griz have found ways to win games in numerous different situations and getting them out of their tempo has proved difficult for the rest of the conference.

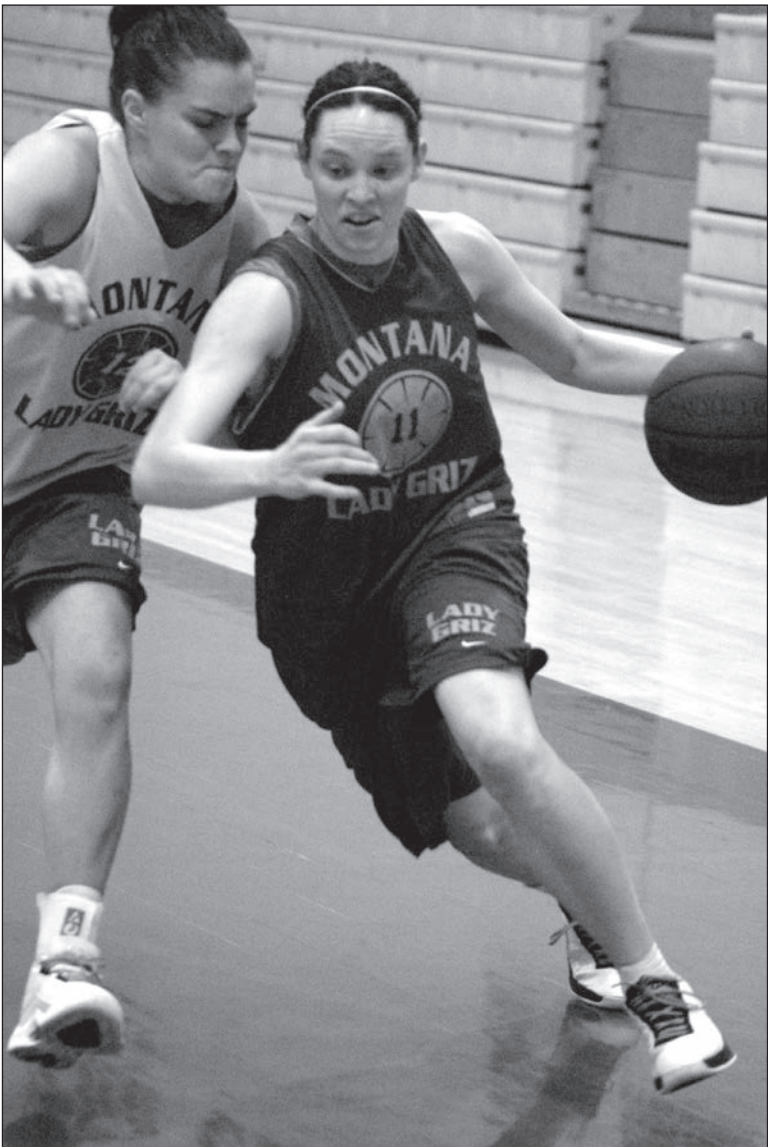
If Montana should win its next two games - the second one being another road game against Portland State - and win the postseason tournament, ESPN.com projects the Lady Griz as a No. 13 seed heading into the NCAA tournament.

None of that really matters yet as the game tonight presents just another challenge for the balanced Lady Griz.

“We’re really focused right now as a team,” said junior guard Sonya Rogers.

Rogers is second in the nation in three-point shooting at 48.4 percent and needs just 10 more 3-pointers to break the Lady Griz single-season record of 72.

She said the whole team is playing well, especially the bench, as it has been doing all season



Alisia Muhlestein / Montana Kaimin
Senior guard Laura Cote drives around freshman Stephanie Stender at an early morning practice. The Lady Griz will take on Eastern Washington in Cheney on Thursday.

long.

The idea of taking one game at a time has been a philosophy all season for the Lady Griz, but now is when it really hits home.

“A huge key for us is not looking past anybody,” said senior Johanna Closson, who recently

became the 25th Lady Griz player to reach 1,000 points.

“In the back of our minds it would be special to go and win a couple games in the NCAA tournament, but right now we’ve got to focus on right now.”

STRAIT

Continued from page 5

was seventh in the nation.

Joining the UM forward on the first team were Portland State guard Deonte Huff, Northern Arizona forward Kyle Landry, Montana State guard Carlos Taylor and Weber State forward Arturas Valeika.

Portland State transfer guard Jeremiah Dominguez was named the conference’s MVP and Newcomer of the Year.

Vinnie McGhee, from Sacramento State, was named Freshman of the Year and Portland State center Scott Morrison was named Defensive Player of the Year.

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LeBron James shines in victory over Knicks

NEW YORK (AP) – The “MVP!” chants weren’t enough for one fan, who had to come on the court to tell LeBron James how much he appreciated the superstar’s spectacular performance.

That only made one of the best nights of James’ career even better.

James had 50 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds to win over the Madison Square Garden crowd and lead the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 119-105 victory over the New York Knicks on Wednesday night.

He shot 16-of-30 from the field, including 7-of-13 from 3-point range, in his second 50-point game this season. He exited with fans standing and chanting “MVP!” in the final minute. One fan in a Cavaliers jersey ran onto the floor toward the Cleveland bench, even saying a few words to James, before being turned away by security and arrested.

“I’ve dreamed about playing well in this building and it’s overtaken of how I could ever dream about,” James said. “To get a standing ovation in the greatest basketball arena in the world, it was a dream come true for me. It’s one of the best things that ever happened to me.”

It could have been scary, with the fan coming right up to James to talk to him on the bench after James had departed for good with

23 seconds left.

“It was a great feeling. You get a fan to come down there to express the way he feels about you ... told me I was his favorite player, that never happens,” James said. “I respect him, I respect his pride and for him to come out there and tell me something like that face to face, it’s like the [most] unbelievable thing that ever happened to me.”

James said he was never afraid when he saw the fan coming.

“I’m 6-9 and 260,” James said. “I’m all right.”

The NBA’s scoring leader had 45 points in a victory over the Knicks in Cleveland on Nov. 2. He fell two points shy of Kobe Bryant’s NBA-best this season. The Lakers’ star had a 52-point game on Sunday against Dallas.

James became the first player with at least 50 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds in a game since Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on Jan. 19, 1975.

“You can’t take it for granted because he’s that good. He’s just a great player,” Cavs coach Mike Brown said. “I try not to because coaching a guy like that, working with a guy like that, it’s probably a once in a lifetime deal. You just try to take advantage of every second that you’re with him.”

Damon James added 15 points and Devin Brown had 14 for the Cavs, who won their third straight.

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DEBT

Continued from page 1

credit card and doesn't plan on getting one, but he was so hungry at the time that he almost went for it just to get the free pizza.

"It's exploiting students who are in a vulnerable position," he said.

"It's all very well designed, often times by psychologists, to make you buy things you really don't need," Towe said.

Hanson recommends the Student Assistance Foundation in Griz Central as one of the options available to UM students if they are suffering with debt management.

SAF is a non-profit organization that helps students manage their finances throughout their education.

Hanson said he also often sends students to Consumer Credit Counseling Service in Missoula.

"It's a great place for people with credit card trouble to go," he said.

CCCS offers debt management counseling as well as credit education designed to help establish healthy financial habits.

Towe said it's easy for people to fall prey to modern marketing techniques that are designed to get people to buy things.

He said the bright colors on a box "might be there for a more sinister purpose."

REGENT

Continued from page 1

Melvin, who has been representing Montana students since July 1, 2007, said she thinks the MAS recommendation was an excellent one.

"All students on MAS got to voice opinions, and that's represented in the decision," she said.

Melvin's term ends on June 30, 2008.

Also:

— UM President George Dennison presented a proposal to the Board of Regents Wednesday that would provide children of soldiers killed on active duty in Iraq or Afghanistan with free college education.

University of Montana alum David Bell, along with business partner John McCarrick, both working in the insurance industry, are handling the outreach and funding of the program, which they have named Grateful Nation.

He said educational expenses, including the cost of attendance, will be part of the funding.

"We've arranged to pool those funds in an account, invested with all other funds we have. Wherever they choose to go, the dollars will be transferred to that campus," Dennison said. He said the money will be put in UM Foundation to manage.

— The Board of Regents will vote Thursday on whether or not to institute the 2 percent pool of money requested for faculty recruitment in the Montana University System by the recruitment and retention task force.

"We see this as a high priority if not perhaps the number one priority," said Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT's public policy director, who also sits on the task force. "We've known we have a problem with salaries not meeting muster in terms of national averages." He said the requested pool of money would address the problem of new faculty salaries ending up above those of senior faculty members.

— The new Montana Climate Office within the Montana Forest and Conservation Experiment Station will request a total of \$400,000 from the Board of Regents Thursday. In January, the Kaimin reported that Gov. Brian Schweitzer designated a Montana Climate Office to be housed at UM three years ago, but a budget was not prepared in time for the last legislative session. The funds would go toward hiring a state climatologist and outreach coordinator and help assist in the expansion and improvement of the state's economy, according to the proposal. The office and the state climatologist have been unfunded by the state or anyone else.

RECYCLING

Continued from page 1

aren't there bins in the hallways?"

Besides making it easier for students to recycle, the committee is working to make the program more efficient. A new cardboard baler — an industrial compacting machine — has been installed on campus and a can crusher has been ordered.

Other plans include making the area where recycling employees who compact the cardboard

more resistant to the elements by constructing a covering and pouring concrete.

"We want to make sure the money students are paying through recycling fees is being best put in place," Leftridge said.

For Michaud, the lack of efficiency and labor makes keeping up with the overflowing bins outside all the residence halls challenging.

"It's great that there is recycling in the dorms, don't get me wrong," Michaud said. "But we have to make sure we

get it taken care of properly." Michaud said one possibility of returning recycling to Aber would be if more students volunteered to remove the material with the Recycling Department. Aber's pick-up day, which is Monday, is Michaud's hardest day to staff since his regular employees are busy with classes.

"I need a way to move that recycling faster and more efficiently so that it doesn't overflow and blow around," Michaud said. "Until then, I can't recycle at Aber Hall."

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Missoula County Public Schools is recruiting for 3 Track Coaches at Meadow Hill MS and an assistant wrestling coach at Big Sky HS. Complete and submit the extra-curricular application available at the Human Resources Office at 215 S. 6th St. W. or printable from the District website. www.mcps.k12.mt.us. EEO Employer.

Need Econ 111 tutor. Willing to pay \$10/hr. Call 490-4353.

WMMHC Psych. Crisis Stabilization Facility. On-Call/Relief Crisis Worker. \$12.39/hour. Time and half on Holidays. Prefer last year Bachelor in Social Work or related field. Send cover letter and resume ATTN: Sharon Dillon Dakota Place, 1273 Dakota Street, Missoula, MT. 59801. Fax # 406-543-2631. Phone # 406-542-1411.

SERVICES

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). Here when you need us. Call 243-4711.

Learn how to make fast, cheap and healthy meals! Come to Curry Health Center RM114 (east entrance) Thursday, March 13 at 5pm. There will be free samples of all the food prepared!

MISCELLANEOUS

Wildland fire training. 543-0013.

Used kayak and canoe auction. March 13 at Canoe Rack. www.canoerack.com.

MONTANA KAIMIN
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